A.—Sri G. NARAYANA GOWDA (Minister for Agriculture).—

(*a*) 2,000 acres of land have been brought under irrigated ragi during the summer 1965-66 and other crops like paddy and maize have not been taken up in this Taluka.

(*b*) The following facilities are given by different agencies :—

1. 40 quintals of improved seed ragi have been supplied to ryots.
2. 25 tons of ammonium sulphate have been distributed to ryots.
3. 21 diesel oil engine pumpsets and loan for 107 electrical pumpsets are given to ryots under hire purchase system.
4. In addition to the above, 9 diesel oil engine pumpsets have also been supplied by other agencies like Taluk Development Boards, etc., on daily hire charges.
5. About 900 acres of irrigated ragi have been sprayed to control ragi stemborer for which chemicals worth Rs. 1,000 supplied under subsidised rate.
6. Three power sprayers were made available for spraying the crops in addition to the hand operated sprayers available in the Taluka.

Release of forest lands for cultivation.

**Q.*—393. Sri S. P. PHAYDE (Ankola).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the forest lands released from the Forest Department and handed over to the Revenue Department for granting the same to the cultivators in Yellapur Taluk in North Kanara District has not been cleared of the jungle ;

(*b*) whether it has come to their notice that the grantees are not able to cultivate the said lands, unless the jungle is cleared of by the Forest Department ;

(*c*) the steps they propose to take in this behalf ?

A.—Sri B. RACHAIAH (Minister for Forests and Fisheries).—

(*a*) Clearance is in progress.

(*b*) No. The forest land is not yet handed over to the Revenue Department.

(*c*) Does not arise in view of reply to (*a*).